



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13. BAPTISM FEST 2020

Since I began my time of ministry at RPC in 1997, I have picked a particular battle with an old church tradition. Going back for any number of years, RPC celebrated the first Sunday after Labor Day in September with the Sunday School kick-off, worship, and a wonderful picnic on the Great Lawn behind the church. For years, it came with the name “Welcome Back Sunday.” Welcome back? From what? I learned more about it the next year when it became apparent that attendance on Sunday during the summer fell off rather precipitously from the rest of the year. That habit has proven fairly resilient over the years, but still I stood on principle in refusing to call it “Welcome Back Sunday.” “Where Have You Been Sunday” was proposed in a more sarcastic mood. It did become “Kick Off Sunday” for a time, eventually morphing into our “Fall Festival” with worship and a picnic on the Great Lawn.

This year, as we all know, is different. Gatherings at church are limited in size, and many of our usual traditions will be on hiatus this year – or at least look very different - including the Fall Festival worship and picnic. But in the spirit of the fall season and a fresh start to a more active season in the life of the church, we still wanted to do something special this month. One of the things that has been on hold since March, has been our celebration of baptisms – our official welcoming of new children into the life of the church. But the desire from a number of

families for baptism (with children rapidly growing out of that early phase of relative compliance with such church traditions) has been expressed.

With them in mind, here is what we propose. On Sunday, September 13, worship will take place as “usual” at 10AM. Those who wish to come to the sanctuary to worship in person are welcome to sign up and attend – up to our current capacity. Online worship will continue, with hopes that by September, our new audio-visual system will be able to deliver a higher quality experience for those who cannot attend in person. Shortly after 10:30 a.m., those in the service will adjourn to the front lawn of the church, where they will join up with families bringing their children for baptism. The font will be outside in front of the amazing entryway to the church facing the Post Road, and the Zoom service will go mobile to continue the connection with those at home. And there, at the entrance to the church, we will promise our support, baptize the newest members of our family of faith, and welcome them into the community.

It may not be quite the same as worship under the tent with a lovely picnic with all the fixin’s, but we are hopeful it will be a joyous day nonetheless – a Welcome Sunday, as we welcome children and their families. May it also be a day where we reconnect and remember the truth of our own baptisms – a day where the grace of God poured out on water on a child’s head pours freely over all of us. A day where God declares us all to be deeply loved. And a day where we together commit anew to the way of God – welcoming, faithful, creative, and generous.

In person or online, we welcome you (back) on September 13. And if you are one of those that has been wondering about having a baptism for your child (or for yourself!) we invite you to be in touch so that we can arrange for you to be a part of this celebration.

Welcome!

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Stephen Ministry, Give Online, Prayer Wall, The 3 Ts



HOW'S YOUR OWN PPE INVENTORY?

Personal Protection Equipment is essential to our healthcare workers during COVID and we all want to make sure they have an ample supply. But how about you? Are you currently facing a difficult personal situation or major life event where your own internal PPE resources are on short supply or frayed? There are

over **43 life events** listed on the classic Holmes-Rahe Stress Inventory, but without “pandemic” on the chart, it seems outdated. What is not outdated is the power of a caring one-to-one relationship. That is what a **Stephen Minister** provides you during your time of need for as long as you need it. This individual is a trained layperson who comes alongside you to listen, care, and encourage with a compassionate heart. And the uniqueness of the relationship is that it is designed to be just between the two of you – confidential and suited to your specific concerns and struggles. How do you know if you might benefit from a Stephen Minister? Take a moment to call Dan or John. Or reach out to Patti Adimari, who is trained to discern and coordinate confidential Stephen Ministry care at RPC. Patti can be reached at 914-844-8974 or pattirys@optonline.net.



Online donation options are available on the RPC Website Giving page.

To access, go to ryepc.com/give or scan the QR Code to the right with your cell phone.

Please contact Maida Robinson:

mrobinson@ryepc.com



PRAYER WALL

As a way to connect to one another and to God throughout this time, you are invited to make prayer requests known on the RPC website Prayer Wall (<https://ryepc.com/article/rpc-prayer-wall/>). Together we continue to pray for all those in need throughout this unique time. All can share anonymously, but please keep in mind that it is a public forum.

3Ts

The 3 Ts THE THIRD TUESDAY AT TEN (and the adventure of adding a 4th T)

Over the past several years, on the **Third Tuesday** of each month at **Ten**, several church members and their friends came together to discuss various topics of interest in a caring and sharing way.

2020 has brought an interesting challenge to the group. How do we keep in contact when today's circumstances do not permit 'in person' gatherings? Hence the addition of a 4th T, **T**echnology (in other words a virtual or 'zoom' meeting).

With the support of our clergy and the technical savvy of Reverend Dan Love, we found the answer and were able to stay together in thought and enjoyed many meaningful discussions. One participant remarked that “You always leave the 3Ts meeting feeling uplifted.” She felt that even with our new circumstances, our sharing was at the same level as prior 'in person' meetings. Our gatherings continue to be intellectually stimulating and we all manage to still have fun.

Recently, former members of our church who have moved away have been able to participate since our meetings are virtual via computer. Distance has not been a problem and participants feel closer as there is no need for transportation, shut-ins can participate, and meetings are easy to attend. Another member mentioned the importance of visual contact, active interaction, and the connections we make.

We encourage community members to join the group. Some of us are computer savvy and some are struggling with the technology involved, but everyone is welcome to join (help will be given).

The group is led by Nancy Steed and Jane Mickatavage. Topic suggestions mainly come from the group's interests and questions evolved from group discussions.

**Our September meeting is on
Tuesday, September 15, at 10:00 a.m.**

For further information please contact:

Nancy Steed (steedheart@aol.com)

Or Jane Mickatavage (swingramm@aol.com)

“In the flesh” meetings will resume at the church when circumstances permit.

WORSHIP

Weekend Worship

As September begins, we will be continuing with a single service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. As we have done over the summer, that service will have limited in-person attendance and we ask that you sign up online to reserve a space each week. In addition, the online option through Zoom and YouTube will continue. As we keep an eye on demand and safety, we will add services as needed – bringing back the Saturday 5:00 p.m. service or an early Sunday service. Please watch your weekly emails for updates!

Online Worship

As mentioned above, live-streamed worship will continue this fall and will become a permanent feature of RPC. Over the summer, work began on the installation of a permanent system in the sanctuary with multiple cameras, more microphones, and an upgraded sound system. The live feed will be available for now in Zoom and YouTube. But, if you don't have computer capability you can also dial in to hear the service on your phone. That information is in the box below. A special thank-you to the virtual worship crew, the Worship & Music committee, and the in-person usher corps for working so hard to make worship in the Covid-19 era go so smoothly!



DIAL IN TO SUNDAY WORSHIP!
 To attend worship by using your phone, call
 1-646-558-8656
 then enter this Meeting ID: 560 770 303



9:52am Miracle: Electricity back on in time for church service after Isaias hit Rye.

SATURDAY AT 5 WORSHIP

✦

**STAY TUNED
 FOR UPDATES**

WORSHIP

Worship in the Sanctuary In Person

(Reservation required—go to ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/ to reserve a pew.)

Please read our worship safety guidelines which can be found online: ryepc.com/article/worship-reopening-plan-and-guidelines/

Sunday Services also Online via Live Stream!

Bulletin and instructions on joining via Zoom or YouTube are on the church website: ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/

Instructions on joining by Zoom and other platforms are on the church website: ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/

Christian Education

Sunday School

Starting Sunday, September 13, we are going virtual for Sunday School! The curriculum is Illustrated Ministry's *The Beatitudes: An Illustrated Curriculum*. Through art, reflection, and discussion, we will learn about Jesus' vision of God's kingdom for all people, how Jesus turned expectations and traditional beliefs about being blessed upside down, and how to live into the promises of Jesus' Beatitudes from Matthew 4:23-5:12. **Each week we will focus on a different theme:**

Sept 13: To Be Blessed

Sept 20: The Beatitudes

Sept 27: Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

Each Sunday we will meet as a combined 30--minute class for PreK--5th grade via Zoom at 9:00 a.m.

During each session, we will catch up with one another and discuss our welcome question, reflect on that morning's theme, offer a blessing to one another, and end our time together with a few discussion questions and a prayer. If you would like your child(ren) to participate via Zoom, please fill out the registration form [rvepc.com/ministries/children/](https://www.rvepc.com/ministries/children/)

We will also be including a Family Page in our weekly Christian Ed newsletter for families to engage Jesus' Beatitudes together at home! The Family Page consists of a central question, a brief reflection, a coloring page, an activity and a prayer. If you would like to receive these materials and are not already signed up for our newsletter, please contact Rev. JP (jmarshall@rvepc.com). We hope you and your families join us as we engage scripture and live into the promises of Jesus' Beatitudes together!

Children in Worship

While we have begun gathering in person for worship again, it will be a while until we can start up in-person Sunday School and Child Care. **So to our families with young children:**

"Jesus said to them, 'Allow the children to come to me. Don't forbid them, because God's kingdom belongs to people like these children...' Then he hugged the children and blessed them."

-Mark 10:14-16

Jesus not only welcomed children, he also blessed them. Know that your children's presence in worship is both welcome and a blessing to us all! Here are some ideas to help make the most out of worship as a family:

- Please make sure to register to attend worship each week so we know how many from your family will be attending. —[rvepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/](https://www.rvepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/)
- Bring crayons or colored pencils from home so your children can color the provided coloring pages and illustrated children's bulletins.
- Explain what is happening during worship and what is coming next. Let children cross things off in the bulletin as they happen. Whispering is okay!
- When it's time to stand, allow children to kneel on the pews if they would like.
- Allow children to participate in the offering by putting in your envelope or putting in their own gift. A picture drawn for God is appropriate!

Most importantly, relax and be at peace. We know that God made children to be full of energy and excitement. We look forward to seeing you all in worship!

Middle School Connection

All 6th – 8th graders are welcome at RPC's Connection!

Connection kicks off the school year with an in-person gathering out on the **Great Lawn on Wednesday, September 16 at 5:30 p.m.** We'll take time to catch up with one another, then play some games and pray together. All in-person gatherings, starting with this one, will follow the church's COVID-19 guidelines until further notice, including the wearing of masks and practicing social distancing.

After that, we will meet twice a month. One of the gatherings will be via Zoom, during which we will catch up with one another, play games, and pray together. The monthly in-person gatherings will focus on serving our neighbors in a variety of ways. Please let Rev. JP (jmarshall@rvepc.com) know if you'd like to be on the parent email list. Also,

you can sign up for updates through Remind: text @rpcccon to 81010 or sign up: <https://www.remind.com/join/rpcccon>.

We are also keeping the connections going outside of our gatherings through a **GroupMe** group chat! If your youth would like to be a part of our group chat, please send **Rev. JP** either your youth's cell-phone number or email.

High School Youth Group

All 9th – 12th graders are welcome at RPC's High School Youth Group!

We will begin with an in-person gathering out on the **Great Lawn on Sunday, September 13, at 6:00 p.m.** We will take time to catch up with one another, then discuss how we can support each other and serve our community during the school year. All in-person gatherings, starting with this one, will follow the church's COVID-19 guidelines until further notice, including the wearing of masks and practicing social distancing.

Each month we will hold three gatherings for our high school youth to attend. Alongside monthly in-person community service opportunities, we are introducing two new gatherings:

• Faith in an Anxious World

This fall we invite our high school youth to join us for a new four-part series called Faith in an Anxious World. It is our hope to help our youth develop a deeper understanding of Jesus – one in which he becomes a living, breathing example of the wholeness we can experience in our daily walk with God. Each session we'll talk about anxiety, delve into stories throughout the Bible where God enters into an anxious situation and uses it to nurture growth, and discover spiritual practices we can use to look to God as we navigate daily life.

We will meet once a month via Zoom during Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

If you are interested in joining us, email Rev. JP (jmarshall@rvepc.com).

Sept. 20: Life in an anxious world.

See and name the pressure that builds in and around us.

Oct. 18: Life in a relational world.

Build a circle of support for both good times and bad.

(continued next page)

High School Youth (cont.), Confirmation, Children & Youth Choirs

Nov. 15: Life in a hurting world.

Know when our feelings become more than we can handle on our own.

Dec. 13: Life in a hopeful world.

Recognize God at work in our anxious world.

• Youth Vespers

This fall we're introducing a new in-person gathering called Vespers, where we invite our high school youth to slow down in the midst of all the busyness for a time of intentional connection and prayer. We will begin in silence as we ground ourselves in God's presence, then take time to express gratitude for the relationships in our lives. We'll then pass the peace, followed by a time of praying for each other. Our time together will end with a moment of connection and food (of course!).

All high school youth are invited to join us for Vespers on every fourth Sunday at 6:00 pm.

We will gather in the Assembly Room, the Great Lawn, or the Chapel, depending on the month. Please let Rev. JP (jmarshall@ryepc.com) know beforehand if you plan on joining us for Vespers. Also, if you ever have a specific concern you would like us to pray for, please feel free to reach out, even if you are unable to attend!

• Youth Leadership Opportunities

There are a variety of ways our youth can share their time and gifts with the church! All youth are invited to read scripture, serve as ushers, or share any musical gifts with us during Sunday worship. Our high school youth are also welcome to help lead virtual Sunday School via Zoom or our new monthly Vespers gatherings. And their voices are always welcome on any of our church's commitments! If you are interested in serving the church through any of these roles, or if you think of another way you wish to serve, please contact Rev. JP.

We are on Instagram!

Username: ryepresyouth
(www.instagram.com/ryepresyouth/).

Updates through GroupMe!

Join our group chat for updates and keeping in touch with one another! Please send **Rev. JP** (jmarshall@ryepc.com) either your cell-phone number or email.

Updates through Remind!

Text @ryepre to 81010 or sign up at <https://www.remind.com/join/ryepre>.

Confirmation 2021

What do all those strange stories in the Bible have to do with anything, let alone me? If God is so good... why do bad things happen? Can science fit with what is taught in church? Is God even real?

This month, the confirmation class of 2021 will begin its exploration of these questions and many more - questions that lie at the heart of our journeys of faith. To begin the year, following worship on Sunday, September 20, there will be an Orientation Meeting on Zoom for those considering Confirmation and their parents. Not every ninth grader may be asking these questions or eager to take on extra work as high school begins. Yet this is a unique opportunity to explore the life of

faith more deeply. All ninth graders and a parent are encouraged to attend this brief orientation regardless of eagerness, willingness, doubts, or questions!

Again this year, the class will meet throughout the year, and will be active in many aspects of the church, though there will be a pause in their traditional duty as Sunday crucifer.

This year we'll start our class time together on Sunday, September 27 at 5:00 p.m. My hope is to have a mix of online and safe, in-person meetings.

If you are a ninth grader or have a child who is in ninth grade, and have not received information regarding Confirmation, or if you have any questions, please contact Rev. Love (dlove@ryepc.com).



JOIN THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR OR THE YOUTH CHOIR!



CALLING ALL CHILDREN IN GRADES 1-6
(save that 3:45-4:15 p.m. time slot!)

CALLING ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 7 AND UP

These choirs are accepting new members and welcoming back old ones for the 2020-2021 school year.

This year will be different for sure, so stay tuned for more information as the school year starts.

For more information, please contact
Lisa Rawson, Director
lrawson@ryepc.com

Music Notes



From Jason Charneski

Awaiting the New Organ for the Chapel

If all goes according to plan, a new pipe organ for use in the chapel will begin to be installed in mid-to-late September (likely completed by mid-October). This new instrument, being built just outside of Montreal, by Casavant Frères (the builders of the current chancel organ and of the former chapel organ), will contain 564 pipes. It will be slightly larger than the organ it replaces.

How did church leaders come to decide to purchase a new instrument? The answer lies in program needs, aesthetics, and the best investment of financial resources



1. *Program needs.* The new organ's pipes will be placed such that they speak into the chapel without hindrance of distance; thus, the voicing of the pipes will be more singing-like in quality (the former organ's pipes were voiced to "shout" to get the sound out) and the allocation of them via the stops on the console will allow for greater tonal variety and beauty. In addition, the new organ's console will be on the main floor of the chapel; it will be moveable (the "home" locations will be the right rear corner or the front left corner of the main floor). This allows for ease of in-and-out of the chapel and minimal disruption by the organist within worship, easier communication between worship leaders and the organist, and the ability to have a vocal or instrumental soloist or small ensemble visible to or within the congregation.
2. *Aesthetics.* The new organ's case and façade pipes will complement the décor of the renovated chapel (see rendering). The new organ's console (equipped with the latest technology) can be moved out of the chapel if needed or desired in order to increase or reconfigure seating for worship or other events not in need of an organ (the same applies to the baby grand piano in there). In addition, having the organ console on the main floor will enable the organist to hear what the organ actually sounds like in the chapel and, thus, be able to judge better what level of sound is appropriate to accompany singing.
3. *Best investment of financial resources.* The former organ, built in 1957, was quite soon to be in need of major repairs and renovation, including releathering, a console operating system upgrade, and pipe replacement/regulation/revoicing. The expenses for this work would have been approximately 70% of the cost of the new instrument. Given this reality, the Worship and Music Committee recommended to Trustees

and Session to proceed with the new organ. Trustees and Session agreed, and voted to fund it with a combination of unspent Imagine and Capital Projects monies. Looking to the future, the investment in the new organ is such that any major maintenance/repairs likely will not be needed for many decades. In addition, it comes with a 10-year warranty on parts and workmanship.

The spiritual dimension of this new organ is equal to – if not more than – the aspects listed above. May this new instrument infuse our worship and other musical expressions, along with our vision and mission, with new or renewed inspiration. May we sing with it in ways that match its range of timbres and volume. May its sounds draw each listener closer to God and, in so doing, to each other!

Reading the Bible: Update

On June 1, I began my daily discipline (well, almost daily...) of reading the Bible (*The New Oxford Annotated* version of the NRSV). As of today (August 12), I am in the middle of II Kings 15. I set a timer for 30 minutes and read at a pace wherein I do not feel rushed, nor compelled to complete x-number of chapters or pages.

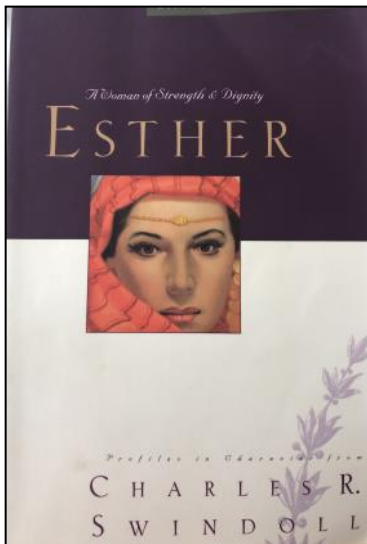
Reading the introductory essays to each book is helpful, as historical context – relative to when each book likely was written/compiled – sheds light on the author's(s') slant(s)/goal(s). For example, the historical books (Judges through Nehemiah) of the Hebrew Bible appear to have been written during or immediately following the exile in Babylon. The historical accounts of battles and land allocation/seizure and reference – within I Kings and II Kings – to the *Books of Annals* of the Kings of Israel and Judah cause me to consider afresh the well-known stories (mostly from the oral tradition?) about David, Solomon, Elijah, and the many others who had encounters with God ("...the word of the Lord came to..."). The "good moments" are fairly rare in occurrence; rather, selfishness and the brutality of life in the Iron Age are depicted in far greater measure. The hope lies in God's continual promise to redeem Israel/Judah and have them prosper when they repent of their sins.

Pandemic-caused Hiatus of Congregational and Choral Singing and the Chamber Music Series Continues

I wish I would not have had to write that title. In addition to congregational and choral singing, so much of what we were planning for this season has been put on hold: A chamber music concert on October 4 geared to children and families (in conjunction with the annual Blessing of the Animals); the Duruflé *Requiem*, accompanied by chamber orchestra and organ, in worship on November 1 (All Saints' Day) to recognize all who have passed on to the greater shore and a greater light in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the sanctuary; and *Messiah* (Part 1) on Cantata Sunday.

We mourn and wait now, but will exult then. In the meantime, the section leaders of the Chancel Choir will continue to offer their gifts in worship as soloists. Lisa Rawson is working to develop activities (in-person and/or on-line) for children and youth. As I stated in my column in the Summer edition of this newsletter, "Blessed are the flexible, for they will not be bent out of shape."

Women's Discipleship Group, Thrift Shop, Chancel Flowers



Tuesday Afternoon Women's Discipleship Group

Tuesdays, beginning September 22,
1:00-2:30 p.m.,
Via Zoom

Please join our discipleship as we continue our study of

Esther: A Woman of Strength & Dignity
by Charles R. Swindoll

For more information, please contact
Alicia Baldwin (alicia.baldwin@verizon.net), or
Courtney Bennett (Courtneybennett910@gmail.com).

THRIFT SHOP

STAY TUNED

FOR FALL UPDATES

*Please Note: At the moment, the Thrift Shop
is neither open or taking donations.*



NEW WEEKDAY HOURS

Starting in September, the church will extend its opening hours to 10-2, Monday through Friday, for private prayer in the Sanctuary and other church business. Only one door will be open for entry - the door facing Parsons Street near the Assembly Room. If you need access to the building at some other time during the day, please contact the church office at 967-0842, or at rpc@ryepc.com. If you do come to the church, please take careful note of the guidelines that are in place so that we may all safely use the church building together (<https://ryepc.com/article/weekday-reopening-of-rye-presbyterian/>).



SUNDAY CHANCEL FLOWERS

**During this COVID time,
you may still make a donation of
the Sunday chancel flowers.**

Each week beautiful flowers adorn our sanctuary and provide an uplifting reminder of the goodness of God. Please consider honoring the memory of a loved one or recognizing a special occasion for a \$70 donation.

The flowers are a blessing to worshippers attending the service live in the sanctuary as well as those attending via ZOOM.

Your donation will be noted in the church bulletin and the weekly email.

To make arrangements, contact Denise LeVan (dlevan@ryepc.com).

Bible Studies, September Meetings

BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study

**Sundays, September 13 and 27,
at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom**

If you've been thinking about joining in on this time of figuring out how the bible speaks to us about life and faith, it's a great time to join this twice monthly gathering. This month we will be resuming our work through the Gospel according to Luke. If you'd like to get email reminders about this ongoing study, contact Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com. For now, we will continue to meet on Zoom.

Monday Bible Discussion Group

**Mondays, September 14, 21, and 28,
at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom**

Beginning on September 14, the Monday Bible Discussion group will resume its weekly work on our overview journey through the bible using videos from *The Bible Project* (bibleproject.com). We will meet online on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. each Monday, though there will be some adjustments around holidays, etc. This month, we'll meet on September 14, 21, and 28. To get on the email reminder list, contact Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com.

Women's Bible Study

STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES

Meets Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

For further information,
contact Cynthia De Santis
(cynthialwells@gmail.com)

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

Board Meetings

Deacons: Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Trustees: Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Session: Wednesday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Youth

Confirmation Orientation Meeting w/Parents and Class

Sunday, Sept. 20, following worship, via Zoom.

Confirmation Class: Sunday, Sept. 27, 5:00 p.m.,
via Zoom.

Connection: Wednesday, Sept. 16, 5:30 p.m.,
Great Lawn. Contact Rev. JP (jmarshall@ryepc.com).

High School Youth Group:

Sunday, Sept. 13, 6:00 p.m., Gathering on the Great Lawn.

Sunday, Sept. 20, 6:00 p.m., "Life in an Anxious."
World," via Zoom.

Sunday, Sept. 27, 6:00 p.m., Vespers on the Great Lawn.
Contact Rev. JP, (jmarshall@ryepc.com).

Other Church Meetings

3 Ts: Sept. 15, 10:00 a.m., via Zoom.

Contact Jane Mickatavage (Swinggramm@aol.com) or
(914-967-8622); or

Nancy Steed (steedheart@aol.com) or (914-328-9658).

Personnel Committee: Monday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

**Stephen Ministry Supervision Groups will meet the first
week of September.** Dates and times TBA.

Thrift Shop: Closed until further notice. Donations not being
accepted at this time.

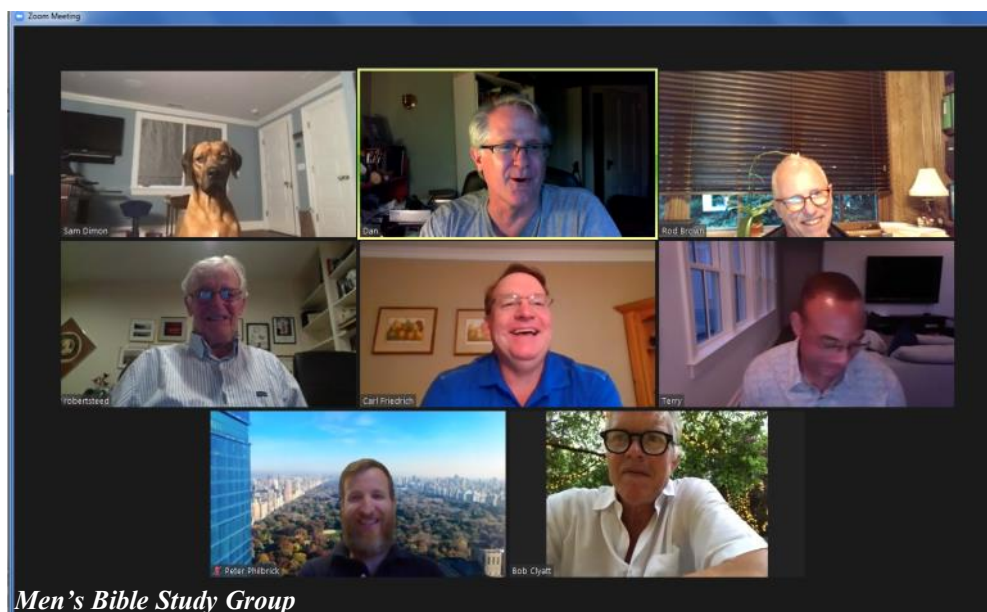
Tuesday Afternoon Discipleship:

Weekly, starting starting Tuesday, Sept. 22, 1:00 p.m.,
via Zoom. For the link, contact:

Alicia Baldwin (alicia.baldwin@verizon.net) or

Courtney Bennett (courtneybennett910@gmail.com).

Worship & Music: Monday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.



Rye Presbyterian Nursery School

Greetings to the RPC Community from Kristin Bassett Kumar

RPNS Reopening:

It has been a busy summer preparing to reopen Rye Presbyterian Nursery School. We worked together with board members, medical professionals, faculty members, and the RPC leadership to create a reopening plan that was submitted to New York State at the end of July. Our reopening plan is posted on the home page of our website (rpnskids.org) for families to review.

We are happy to report that our school reopening plan has been approved by the Westchester County Health Department.

This is very exciting news and we cannot wait to get our school up and running again! We will continue to watch the infection rates in our area and hope that the rates continue to be low so we can have a successful school year!

Beloved Faculty Members Retiring:

It is with heavy hearts that we share that several beloved faculty members have retired. We say farewell to:

- Mary Canneto (32 years at RPNS)
- Kathy Henk (32 years at RPNS)
- Julie Cotter (21 years at RPNS)
- Beverly Carducci (13 years at RPNS)

The pandemic has caused their time at RPNS to end earlier than anticipated.

We are incredibly grateful for the memories, love, and laughter that we have shared with these amazing women. It is bittersweet to say "good-bye" to these cherished members of our family. The faculty will be honoring these faculty members in a socially distant celebration in August. We will plant hydrangea bushes in their honor and dedicate a plaque to commemorate their many years of dedication to the nursery school. When the children return to school, they will be greeted by these beautiful hydrangea bushes. We wish Mary, Kathy, Julie, and Beverly all the best as they begin their new journeys.

They will be greatly missed!



[The Rev. Daniel Love](#), *Co-Pastor*

[The Rev. Dr. John Miller](#), *Co-Pastor*

[The Rev. Jean-Paul Marshall](#), *Associate Pastor for Christian Education*

[Jason Charneski](#), *Director of Music and Organist*

[Lisa Rawson](#), *Director of Choirs for Children and Youth*

[Maida Robinson](#), *Chief Administrative Officer*

[Peggy Berretta](#), *Administrative Assistant*

[Denise LeVan](#), *Pastoral Assistant*

[Juan Velasquez](#), *Head Sexton/Building Manager*

Rye Presbyterian Church

882 Boston Post Road

Rye, New York 10580

Tel: 914.967.0842

www.ryepc.com

We are a Stephen Ministry church.